



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,800	03/06/2002	Tetsuo Takeyama	04208.0140	6674

7590 03/13/2003

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow,  
Garrett & Dunner, L.L.P.  
1300 I Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3315

EXAMINER
----------

DINH, PHUONG K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2839

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/090,800

Applicant(s)

TAKEYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Phuong KT Dinh

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. Claims 1 and 4, the phrase, " while pinching said terminal" is unclear. This is contradiction of the specification. The terminal is disclosed to pinch the electrode pad; the terminal is not seem to be pinched. See figures 3 and 7b.
4. Claim 4, lines 19-20, " said terminals of a cable" should be - - said terminals of said cable - - .
5. Claim 6, lines 2- 3, are unclear and line 4; "the phrase, " groove formed over" is unclear. Just what feature is refereed to not understood.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-2, 4-5 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seto (U. S. Patent 5,277,621).

8. Regarding claim 1, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses a contact terminal 7 comprising: a first connecting section for electrical connecting with a terminal of a cable 11 while pinching the cable pads, the first connecting section being formed at one side of the contact terminal, and a second connecting section for electrically connecting with an electrode of a card 10 while being in contact with the electrode, the second connecting section being formed at the other side continuous with the first connecting section.

9. Regarding claim 2, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses a coupling section for coupling the first connecting section to the second connecting section is provided between the first and second connecting sections.

10. Regarding claim 4, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses a card connector having contact terminals 7 comprising: contact terminals 7 having a first connecting section 7b and 7d for electrically connecting with a terminal of a cable 11 while pinching the cable pads, the first connecting section 7b, 7d being formed at one side of the contact terminal and a second connecting section 7a and 7c for electrically connecting with an electrode of a card 10 while being in contact with the electrode, the second connecting section 7a and 7c being formed at the other side continuous with the first connecting section. A card accommodation portion in which the second connecting section 7a and 7c of the contact terminal 7 are disposed for accommodating the card 10 having the electrode for the electric connection with the second connecting section 7b and 7d and the cable 11 connecting section in which the first connecting section 7b and 7d of the contact terminals 7 are disposed having an insertion slot for allowing the terminals of

the cable 11 to be inserted for the electric connection with the first connecting section 7b and 7d.

11. Regarding claim 5, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses the contact terminal 7, a coupling section for coupling the first connecting section 7a and 7c to the second connecting section 7b and 7d is provided between the first and second connecting sections.

12. Regarding claim 8, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses the card 10 is removably accommodated in the card accommodation portion.

13. Regarding claim 9, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses a plurality of contact terminals 7 are provided in correspondence to a plurality of electrodes in the card 10 accommodated in the card accommodation portion.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seto in view of Kunishi (U. S. Patent 5,928,027).

16. Regarding claim 3, Seto discloses the claimed invention except for the coupling section has coupling surfaces orthogonal to each other and coupled to the first and second connecting sections, respectively. Kunishi, see figure 1, discloses the coupling section has coupling surface orthogonal to each other and coupling to the first and

second connecting sections. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seto to provide the coupling section has coupling surfaces orthogonal to each other and coupled to the first and second connecting sections, respectively as taught by Kunishi because this is considered an alternate design.

17. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seto in view of Ishikawa et al. (U. S. Patent 6,511,349).

18. Regarding claim 10, Seto, see figures 5-9, discloses the claimed invention except for the card is an elongated type memory card. Ishikawa discloses the card 7 is an elongated type memory card. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Seto to provide a memory card instead of a printed circuit board because they are consider equivalent in the art as taught by Ishikawa

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong KT Dinh whose telephone number is 703-308-6102. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 -5, 5 days a week.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Field can be reached on 703-308-2710. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 2839

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

**Phuong Dinh**  
March 6, 2003

  
**LYNN FIELD**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800**